In this lesson, we formally introduce the verb अस् (to be).

अस् denotes existence in all its variants.

Sanskrit is unique in that three forms exist for each noun. They are singlular, plural and dual. The third form dual is to beused when refering to two persons at a time.

The Sanskrit names for these forms are

singular	एकवचनम्
	ēkavacanam
plural	बहुवचनम्
	bahuvacanam
dual	द्विवचनम्
	dvivacanam

As in other languages, Sanskrit also distinguishes sentences in first, second and third person. The sanskrit terms for these are.

उत्तम पुरुषः	- First Person
uttama puruṣaḥ	
मध्यम पुरुषः	- Second Person
madhyama puruṣaḥ	
प्रथम पुरुषः	- Third Person
prathama puruṣaḥ	

Let us first look at some sentences.

This section deals with the verb अस् ।

अहं आचार्यः अस्मि	I am a teacher
ahaṃ ācāryaḥ asmi	
त्वं शिष्यः असि	You are a student
tvaṃ śiṣyaḥ asi	(Disciple)
एषः महाराजः अस्ति	He is an emperor
ēśaḥ mahārājaḥ asti	
एषा महाराज्ञी अस्ति	She is a queen.
ēṣā mahārājñī asti	

Note that Sanskrit does not use the definite or indefinite article. The translator has to introduce the article as required.

पुस्तकं अत्र अस्ति	The book is here
pustakaṃ atra asti	
मन्दिरं तत्र अस्ति	The temple is there
mandiraṃ tatra asti	

Let us now look at some expressions involving द्विवचनं or the dual form.

आवां वैद्यौ स्वः	We (two) are doctors
āvām vaidyau svaḥ	
युवां भक्तौ स्थः	You (two) are devotees
yuvām bhaktau sthaḥ	
एतौ सेवकौ स्तः	They (two) are servants
ētau sēvakau staḥ	(servant-masculine)
एते सेविके स्तः	They (two) are maids
ētē sēvikē staḥ	(maid - feminine)
फले अत्र स्तः	Two fruits are here
phalē atra staḥ	
पद्मे तत्र स्तः	Two lotuses are there
padamē tatra staḥ	

Expressions involving the plural form.

वयं चालकाः स्मः	We (all) are drivers
vayaṃ cālakāha smaḥ	
यूयं पाचकाः स्थ	you (all) are cooks
yūyaṃ pācakāha stha	
एते युवकाः सन्ति	They (all) are young lads
ētē yuvakāha santi	
एताः युवतयः सन्ति	They (all) are young women
ētāha yuvatayaḥ santi	
वनानि अत्र सन्ति	Forests are here

vanāni atra santi	
पात्राणि तत्र सन्ति	Vessels are there
pātrāṇi tatra santi	

In this section, the verb अस् is used as अस्ति to denote possession (in the sense of have)

मम पुत्रः अस्ति	I have a son or
mama putraḥ asti	My son is here
मम पुत्रौ स्तः	I have (two) sons or
mama putrau staḥ	My (two) sons (are) here
मम पुत्राः सन्ति	I have (more than 2) sons
mama putrāha santi	or My sons (more than 2) are here

The above sentences can be translated in two ways since Sanskrit does not have the definite article.

Also the same verb अस् is usd in two different ways to mean "is" and "have".

The correct meaning will have to be understood from the context. Though this may appear a bit confusing, the student will be able to make the distinction with some practice.

Lesson-2 Section-3

The table given below summarizes the use of the verb अस् in different forms.

Conjugation of the verb अस्

	Singular	Dual	Plural
Ist person	अस्मि	स्वः	स्मः
IInd person	असि	स्थः	स्थ
IIIrd person	अस्ति	स्तः	सन्ति

In Sanskrit, the verb will have to conform to the Person

and Number.

The table below gives examples of the three noun forms (in the nominative) of the nouns पुत्रः, सेविका and फलम्

	Singular	Dual	Plural
Masculine	पुत्रः	पुत्रौ	पुत्राः
Feminine	सेविका	सेविके	सेविकाः
Neuter	फलम्	फले	फलानि

Each noun, will have to be remebered with respect to its three forms, i.e., singular, Dual and Plural.

The personal pronouns also have three forms

	Singular	Dual	Plural
I per.	अहं	आवां	वयं
	I	We two	We
II per.	त्वं	युवां	यूयं
	You	You two	You(many)

Please note that the personal pronouns in First and second person have no gender.

The personal pronouns corresponding to the possessive case are also given in the three forms. In the first and second person they have no gender.

I per.	मम	आवयोः	अस्माकं
	my	our	our
II per.	तव	युवयोः	युष्माकं
	your	your(two)	your

The Demonstrative pronouns have three forms too.

Singular	Dual	Plural

Mas.	एषः	एतौ	एते
	he	these two	these
	सः	तौ	ते
Fem.	एषा	एते	एताः
	she	these two	these (many)
	सा	ते	ताः
Neut.	एतत्	एते	एतानि
	this	these two	these
	तत्	ते	तानि

Exercises for lesson 2.
Exercise-1
Here are some examples of questions and answers
relating to this lesson.

Q.	किं एतत् तव पुस्तकं	Is this your book ?
A.	आं एतत् मम पुस्तकं	yes, it is my book.
Q.	किं एषः तव भ्राता	Is he your brother ?
A.	न एषः मम भ्राता नास्ति	No, he is not my brother.

Now, try and answer the questions given below.
The answer may be in the affirmative or negative.
The type of answer required is also indicated.

1.	किं सा तव स्वसा	आं ________________________
2.	किं एषा तव भार्या	न ________________________
3.	किं तत् तव वाहनम्	न ________________________
4.	किं एषः तव गुरुः	आं ________________________

Lesson-2
Exercise-2

Fill in the blanks with the appropriate singular, plural or dual form of the noun. Study the example given before proceeding further. We are introducing numbers as well.

Example:

	अत्र पुस्तकं अस्ति	तत्र द्वे पुस्तके स्तः
		द्वे - two

Questions:

1.	अत्र पुत्रः अस्ति	तत्र त्रयः _____ सन्ति
		(त्रयः -three)
2.	अत्र सेविका अस्ति	तत्र चतस्रयः ____ सन्ति
		(चतस्रयः - four)
3.	अत्र युवति अस्ति	तत्र सप्त _______ सन्ति
		(सप्त - seven)
4.	अत्र युवकः अस्ति	तत्र अष्ट _______ सन्ति
		(अष्ट - eight)
5.	अत्र फलं अस्ति	तत्र द्वे ________ स्तः

Lesson-2

Exercise-3

Fill up the blanks with appropriate demonstrative pronouns. An example is given first.

	तत्र गृहं अस्ति	तत् मम गृहं

1.	तत्र पिता अस्ति	_______ मम पिता
2.	तत्र नारी अस्ति	_______ तव माता
	(नारी - lady)	
3.	एतत् फलं	________ मम फलं
4.	अत्र पुरुषः अस्ति	________ मम पिता
5.	अत्र लेखनी अस्ति	________ तव लेखनी
		(लेखनी - pen)

Please remember the distinction made earlier between सः and एषः

Lesson-2

Exercise-4

Fill in the blanks With the appropriate form of the noun

and the verb अस . An example sentence is given.

कति अङ्गुल्यः सन्ति	दश अङ्गुल्यः सन्ति
	-----
1. कति सूर्याः सन्ति	एकः ________________
2. कति ताराः सन्ति	बहवः ________________
	(बहवः - many)
3. एक हस्ते कति अङ्गुल्यः सन्ति	पञ्च _____________
4. कति नयनानि सन्ति	द्वे ____________________

नयनम् -eye declines like फलम्

5. कति कर्णाः सन्ति	द्वौ __________________

कर्णः - ear (masculine) declines like पुत्रः

6. अश्वस्य कति पादाः सन्ति	अश्वस्य चत्वारः __________
7. कार्यानस्य कति चक्राणि सन्ति	चत्वारि ____________
8. बैसैकिल यानस्य कति चक्राणि सन्ति	द्वे ___________
9. कति वीणाः सन्ति	द्वे ____________________

Lesson-2

Exercise-5

Fill up the blanks with the appropriate form of अस् .

Example.

अहं भारते अस्मि   सः अमेरिकायां अस्ति

अहं नेपाले अस्मि तौ पाकिस्ताने स्तः

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1. अहं नेपाले अस्मि ते भारते _______ (Dual)
2. नयागरा अमेरिकायां अस्ति

कल्कत्ता एवं मद्रास् भारते __________

3. अहं कृषः अस्मि ते कृषाः ___________

कृषः - thin and lean, declines like पुत्रः

4. अहं उन्नतः अस्मि ताः _________

5. आम्र फलं स्थूलं अस्ति आम्र फलानि __________

Lesson-2
Exercise-6
Form questions as shown in the example.

एतत् मम धनं एतत् किं तव धनम्

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1. एतत् आवयोः धनं एतत् किं ______ धनम्
2. एतत् असमाकं धनं एतत् किं ______ धनम्
3. एतत् मम पद्मं एते किं ______ पद्मे
4. एतत् मम कार्यानं एते किं ______ कार्याने

कार्यानम् - Motor vehicle , declines like फलं

Lesson-2
Sanskrit Numerals.

We have used numbers in the sentences seen earlier. The names given to the ten numerals are given below. Devanagari has its own symbols for the numerals and these are also shown alongside.

Please note that number 1 will apply only to एकवचनम् while 2 will apply to द्विवचनम् . The first four numbers alone have variations depending on the gender. The remaining six have the same form for all the three genders.

Table of Numerals.

N0.	Name	Sym.	Masc.	Fem.	Neut.
1	एक	१	एकः	एका	एकं
2	द्वि	२	द्वौ	द्वे	द्वे
3	त्रि	३	त्रयः	तिस्रः	त्रीणि
4	चतुर्	४	चत्वारः	चतस्रः	चत्वारि
5	पञ्चन्	५	पञ्च	पञ्च	पञ्च
6	षट्	६	षट्	षट्	षट्
7	सप्तन्	७	सप्त	सप्त	सप्त
8	अष्टन्	८	अष्ट	अष्ट	अष्ट
9	नवन्	९	नव	नव	नव
10	दश	१०	दश	दश	दश

Let us look at an example. The word गौ
(in English, cow) may have many distortions such as

कौ (cow) , कु (kuh) , ग्यू (gyu) etc..

Panini further gives the sutra सिद्धे शब्दार्थसम्बन्धे which is interpreted by the Bhashyakaras to mean the eternal connection between sound and its meaning. The "Darshana Shastras" place specific emphasis on this eternal connection between a word and its meaning. What the Samskritarians have proceeded on is the conviction that the Vedic language is the universal and natural language. There is no place for any other language in this scheme!

Lesson-2: Summary

In this lesson, we have seen the use of the verb अस् (to be). We have observed that in Sanskrit there are three numbers, namely Singular, Dual and Plural. The Dual form is unique to Sanskrit though one does encounter the dual form in Arabic and Avestan.

when we use a noun, we must know in which of the three numbers we must use it. In a later lesson, when we study cases, we will see that every noun will have a form for each of the eight cases that a noun can be used in. With three numbers and eight cases, there will be 24 forms for each noun. Don't be alarmed. The forms are easily remembered.

Each verb will be remembered in nine forms, three forms each (singular, dual and plural) for first person, second person and third person.

The personal pronouns I and you do not have any gender. There are three forms for each of the demonstrative pronouns he, she and this.